Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 177161 ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SS-15 /028 R

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R 132039Z JUL 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM LUERS

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEWT, RO

SUBJECT: JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION

REF: BUCHAREST 4570

- 1. I HAVE BEEN REFLECTING ON YOUR MESSAGE ON THE COMMISSION, AND WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH COMMERCE TO SEE WHETHER WE CAN COME UP WITH A DEFINITE PROPOSAL TO THE GOR.
- 2. ALTHOUGH BOTH COMMERCE AND WE HERE HAVE SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT INJECTING BLUMENTHAL INTO THE US-ROMANIAN COMMISSION, THE POSSIBILITY OF HIS CHAIRING THE US DELEGATION THIS YEAR AT LEAST HAS SERVED TO PROD COMMERCE INTO RECONSIDERING KREPS'S INVOLVEMENT. WEIL HAS BEEN ASKED TO DISCUSS THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMISSION ONCE AGAIN WITH BOTH HARMAN AND KREPS. KREPS WAS PLANNING A TRIP TO THE SOVIET UNION IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER (NOT IN DECEMBER FOR THE COMMISSION), BUT THE ODDS OF THIS TAKING PLACE APPEAR TO BE FALLING RAPIDLY, JUDGING FROM US-SOVIET RELATIONS. IF HER PLANS FOR MOSCOW ARE SCRUBBED, SHE MAY BE WILLING TO MAKE THE TRIP TO BUCHAREST. HARMAN, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS SCHEDULED TO ACCOMPANY BLUMENTHAL TO

THE SOVIET COMMISSION MEETING AND COULD STOP OFF FIRST IN BUCHAREST END-NOVEMBER IF WE ARE UNABLE TO GET KREPS. (NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE SOVIET COMMISSION MEETING CANNOT BE

CONSIDERED A CERTAINTY NOW, BUT HARMAN WOULD BE WILLING TO GO TO BUCHAREST IN ANY CASE.)

- 3. FYI BLUMENTHAL HAS NO PLANS TO VISIT BUCHAREST THIS YEAR: WHILE WE COULD EXPLORE WITH HIM STOPPING IN BUCHAREST BEFORE OR AFTER THE SOVIET COMMISSION MEETING, I WOULD PREFER TO SEE WHAT TRANSPIRES WITH COMMERCE.
- 4. I WILL KEEP YOU ADVISED. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: COMMISSIONS Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 13 jul 1978 Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE177161
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: SFROMOWITZ:JF Enclosure: n/a

Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D780288-0008

Format: TEL From: STATE

Handling Restrictions:

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780763/aaaacasr.tel

Line Count: 75 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 653eda75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS, ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS, ONLY Reference: 78 BUCHAREST 4570

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 28 apr 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a

Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2016551 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION

TAGS: ETRD, EEWT, RO

To: BUCHARÉST Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/653eda75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014